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CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER

24-HOUR REPORT

18 October 2016

(U) CALIFORNIA

(U) Vallejo – Man Armed With Assault-Style Weapon and Body Armor Attempted Attack on Police

(U) A man wearing body armor pointed an assault rifle at two police officers in a California Starbucks, only to have the weapon malfunction before he fled and was shot by the officers nearby. A Vallejo Police Chief called it an "attempted assassination" of the two officers, who were on break when the confrontation occurred. It marked the latest attack on police across the country, including two incidents in California in recent weeks that left a total of three law enforcement officers dead. Police in Vallejo said Adam Powell, 41, had passed by the Starbucks six minutes earlier, apparently planning the attack. SOURCE: 18 October 2016, Associated Press

(U) NATIONAL

(U) Michigan – Man Fires Shots at Police, Killed by Return Fire

(U) Benton Harbor – A man fired on officers leaving the scene of a fictitious call of a man being held by another man at gunpoint. As officers left, an unknown man emerged from the street and opened fire on the officers, firing multiple shots, police said. As they ran for cover, one officer returned fire and subsequently hit the shooter, who was armed with two handguns. The man was taken to Lakeland Medical Center hospital in St Joseph, where he was pronounced dead. No officers were injured in the incident.

SOURCE: 18 October 2016, M Live

(U) Texas – Iraqi Refugee Pleads Guilty to Trying to Help ISIL

(U) Houston – An Iraqi refugee who authorities say wanted to set off bombs at two Houston malls pleaded guilty on 17 October to trying to help the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (ISIL). Omar Faraj Saeed Al Hardan admitted as part of his plea deal that he pledged his loyalty to ISIL in November 2014 and almost immediately trained to use tactical weapons, including an AK-47. He faces up to 20 years in federal prison when he is sentenced on 17 January on a charge of attempting to provide material support or resources to a designated foreign terrorist organization.

SOURCE: 18 October 2016, Associated Press

(U) INTERNATIONAL

(U) Bangladesh – Supporter of Bangladesh Café Attack Joins ISIL

(U) Dhaka – Bangladeshi police reported that they identified three people as the main providers of finance for an attack on a cafe in which 22 people were killed, mostly foreigners.. Police identified one of the three as a doctor who left Bangladesh with his family for Syria to join ISIL. He provided 8 million taka (\$100,000) for a faction of Jamaat-ul-Mujahideen Bangladesh (JMB), known as New JMB. Police believe that New JMB, has pledged allegiance to ISIL. The other two - a retired army major who donated his savings and pension and a man who donated money from a Dhaka flat sale, died in shootouts with police.

SOURCE: 18 October 2016, Reuters

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(U) Belgium – Authorities Detain 15 in Raid Over Involvement in Militant Group

(U) Antwerp – Belgian police today took in 15 people for questioning after raids as part of an investigation into the financing of militant groups and recruiting fighters for ISIL, prosecutors said. The raids were not linked to the Brussels attacks of 22 March in which 32 people were killed. Of the 15 people detained, four will face an investigating judge, prosecutors said. The raids involved police in the cities of Antwerp and Ghent in northwestern Belgium.

SOURCE: 18 October 2016, Reuters

(U) Italy - Home-Made Arsenal Found At Home of ISIL Sympathizer

(U) Naples—Police in Naples arrested a firework retailer suspected of being a sympathizer of ISIL. The 30-year-old man, identified as Diego Oddati Menna, was arrested in his home in San Gennaro Vesuviano after police monitored his activities on social media. The man had praised ISIL activities on Facebook, where he posted under the names Michele Menna or Diabolik U Siccu. Among other things, Menna shared a video of ISIL beheading a captive and called for similar executions of some of his countrymen. During a raid at the man's house, police and bomb disposal specialists found home-made mortar shells, 146 fuses, various detonators and electronic devices used to set off explosives remotely. Authorities defined him as an "explosive expert."

SOURCE: 18 October 2016, International Business Times

(U) SOUTHWEST BORDER

(U) Mexico – Mexican Judge Involved in High-Profile Drug Cases Murdered

(U) Metepec – A Mexican federal judge who presided over appeals from high-profile drug kingpins in recent years was fatally shot in the head outside his home on 17 October. Judge Vicente Bermudez handled several legal challenges lodged by lawyers for Joaquin "El Chapo" Guzman, the jailed leader of the Sinaloa Cartel, as well Miguel Trevino, ex-leader of the Zetas cartel.

SOURCE: 17 October 2016, Reuters

(U) PREPARED BY THE CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER.

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